



March 14, 2022

The Honorable Luz Rivas
 California State Assembly
 State Capitol, Room 6140
 Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Assemblymember Rivas:

We write to express our thanks and support for your leadership in authoring Assembly Bill 1832 to prevent seabed mining of hard minerals in California’s marine waters.

Every new research dive to the seafloor reveals amazing wildlife and new discoveries about the role the deep sea plays in the health of our ocean and our lives. Seabed mining directly destroys

whole plant and animal communities on the seafloor, leaving behind habitat that may never recover. Mining also creates enormous toxic sediment plumes; as well as noise, light, and thermal pollution that disrupt marine habitats.

California cannot afford to risk losing our social, cultural, and economic connections to the sea. The seafloor and ocean underpin California's multi-billion dollar fishing and tourism industries. As the extractive industry grows, seabed mining activities pose a large-scale disruption to these important ecosystems. Seabed mining would harm commercially and recreationally important species like salmon, groundfish, halibut and Dungeness crab as well as the overall health of our ocean.

The State of Washington passed a ban on seabed mining in state waters last year in 2021, following Oregon's seabed mining ban in 1991. The undersigned organizations urge California to do the same and ensure passage of AB 1832 to protect our California coastal waters.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

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Director
7th Generation Advisors

Juan Altamirano
Associate Director of Policy
Audubon California

Dennis Simmons
President
Beach Ecology Coalition

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